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PLEASE PASS TO NSC

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SUBJECT: LETTER FROM DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER RAFA AL-EISSAWI
TO VICE PRESIDENT

1. On August 28 Embassy Baghdad received the following letter from Deputy Prime Minister Rafe H. Al-Eissawi to Vice President Joseph Biden. The original letter will be passed to the Vice President's traveling party next week.

Begin text of message:

Republic of Iraq
Deputy Prime Minister Office
Rafe H. Al-Eissawi

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
Vice President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Vice President Biden,
I write this letter to offer my sincere and heartfelt condolences for the loss of the Honorable Edward M. Kennedy, United States Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Senator Kennedy played a central role over the years in the service of his state and country; he will be missed dearly not only by his friends and family but all of the people of the United States.

I am sure that he is survived by his political colleagues who will continue to carry his egalitarian voice and message. Please accept my heartfelt condolences and I would much appreciate conveying these feelings to President Obama.

Sincerely,

/s/

Rafe H. Al-Eissawi
Deputy Prime Minister
Republic of Iraq

End text of message
FORD